(c) Mahila Battalion is deployed as situation demands.

(d) and (e) In **a** recent amendment to the recruitment procedure of Constables in CPOs, the disturbed areas have been provided additional weightage in allocating vacancies. This will help in recruiting women from such areas if they apply and fulfill the recruitment criteria.

Constitution of Voluntary Civil Force

1643. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to constitute a voluntary civil force to be deployed in times of natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The country has a pool of trained Civil Defence Volunteers. These Civil Defence Volunteers are provided training in various services like communications, casualty management, rescue, welfare and supply management, depot and transport services, fire fighting, salvage and corpse disposal. These services are akin to the requirements of assistance needed in the event of disasters. State Governments may also utilize the services of Civil Defence Volunteers for mitigation/prevention and preparedness for disasters as well as for response and relief after a disaster has struck.

Population of Muslims as per Census 2001

1644. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Census 2001 has been completed;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred on the census;

(c) what is the population of Muslims State-wise and district-wise in various States/Union Territories as per this census;

(d) what are the names of first three most density States, according to 2001 Census; and

(e) what are the names of most density States of Muslim populated districts in States according to the census?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In addition to the normal establishment expenditure, an amount of Rs. 790 crores have been incurred for conduct of Census 2001.

(c) The State-wise and district-wise Muslim population is given in the Annexure. [See appendix 204, Annexure No. 15]

(d) The States with highest proportion of Muslims are Lakshadweep, Jammu & Kashmir and Assam.

(e) The district-wise percentage of Muslim population in the above three States is given in the Annexure. *[See* appendix 204, Annexure No. 16].

Meeting of National Integration Council

1645. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Integration Council has been meeting regularly and if so, work done by the Council during the last 10 years; and

(b) if answer to (a) above is in the negative, the steps proposed to be taken to revive the Council for deliberating on sensitive national issues like minority interests, communal amity et al?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The last meeting of the National Integration Council (NIC) was held in 1992.

(b) The National Integration Council has been re-constituted and its meeting is likely to be convened in the near future.

Smart card in place of citizenship certificate

†1646. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide smart card in place of citizenship certificate;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.